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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/883,139	06/15/2001	James A. Lynn	01-023	8289

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EXAMINER

CHEN, ALAN S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2182

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/883,139

Applicant(s)

LYNN ET AL.

Examiner

Alan S Chen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06/15/2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because the use of consecutive lettering, such as 130a, 130b, 130c, etc. in Fig. 1 for indicating multiple redundant devices creates an ambiguous situation when using the letter "n", to indicate a plurality of redundant devices, e.g., 130n. Elements in figures 1, 2, and 4 are all applicable to this objection. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference characters "130" and "104" have both been used to designate the enclosure in Fig. 2. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
3. The drawings are objected to because element 130 in Fig.2 is specified as the ESM in the specification, but lacks a distinct label and fails to be accurately pointed out in the figure. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: see page 3, first paragraph. It is written "...comprises a host portion (or circuit) 102 and a number of enclosures

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(or circuits) 104a-104n (where n is an *integer*).” The reference to n being an integer is incorrect.

In the drawings, plurality of redundant devices are indicated by letters, i.e., 104a, 104b, etc.

Appropriate correction is required.

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: see page 6, first paragraph. It is written “Enclosure 300 shown in FIG. A utilizes internal wiring...”. There is no FIG. A. in the drawings. The examiner assumes the applicant is trying to reference figure 3A.

Appropriate correction is required.

6. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: see page 8, third paragraph. It is written “...the system 500 may be required tologically remove the ESM device...”. A space is needed between the words “to” and logically”.

Appropriate correction is required.

7. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: see page 9. State 421 is referenced in several locations on the page. There is no state 421. The examiner assumes the applicant is referring to state 521.

Appropriate correction is required.

8. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: Element 400 in Fig. 4. A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

9. Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim language is indefinite when applicant claims "...removing at least one of a SCSI enclosure service device and a drive which have been successfully mapped...". It can be interpreted as either removing the physical device or just the data address location.

10. Claim 3 and 8^{ak} rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim language is indefinite when applicant claims using "...SES location as an anchor". In the specification on page 8, the applicant discloses "the SES data on the loop map" as the anchor, which can be interpreted as different from what is claimed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

11. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by No. 6,044,411 to Berglund et al (hereafter Berglund).

In reference to Claims 1 and 6, Berglund discloses a method and computer readable medium to associate data with physical devices comprising the steps of:

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- a) starting with a first SCSI enclosure service data location, where Berglund's method and computer readable medium goes sequentially down the network of devices defining unique enclosure addresses in the enclosure and the backplanes within each enclosure, starting with the first device (column 7, lines 40-48 and column 7, lines 6-10 of Berglund).
- b) comparing one or more addresses, where Berglund's method and computer readable medium correlates physical addresses to logical addresses (column 4, lines 25-30 and column 5, lines 1-27).
- c) mapping correlating addresses in response to said comparison, where Berglund's method and computer readable medium correlates physical addresses to logical addresses from comparison (column 4, lines 25-30 and column 5, lines 1-27).
- d) removes at least one SES device and drive which have been successfully mapped from the physical address map (column 4, lines 40-45), utilized for further mapping to allow for another mapping of a previous failed mapping of an enclosure. Berglund discloses a method and computer readable medium upon which "concurrent maintenance" occurs that deals with the changing of logical addresses when a device error is reported (column 8, lines 13-21) and therefore must remove the original logical addresses.

In reference to Claims 2 and 7, Berglund discloses a method and computer readable medium that performs comparison in the forward direction, e.g., sequentially down the network of devices (column 7, lines 40-48).

In reference to Claims 3, 4, 8, and 9, Berglund discloses a method and computer readable medium that sets the starting point, the anchor, of the comparison as the first device (column 7, lines 40-48 and Fig.2, element 217A).

In reference to Claim 5 and 10, it is inherent in the method and computer readable medium of Berglund for marking when one or more device is successfully or unsuccessfully (ambiguously) mapped. Berglund discloses the ability to assign a unique logical address for each enclosure, backplane, and device and the ability to accommodate the situations where a device error occurs and the device may still be located by its reported physical address, but the logical address may need to be changed (column 8, lines 15-21). The logical address is identified when there is an error, hence marked as ambiguous by some status signal, and when there is no error, no indication for changing the logical address and thereby marked as mapped successfully.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to associating SES data with physical devices on a FC loop with soft addresses.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,055,228 to Dekoning et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,805,924 to Stoevchase

U.S. Pat. No. 6,167,463 to Arp et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,944,798 to McCarty et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,954,796 to McCarty et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,105,103 to Courtright, II et al.

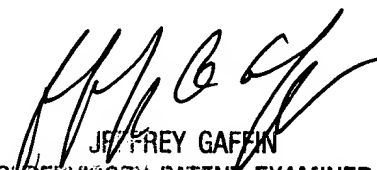
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alan S Chen whose telephone number is 703-605-0708. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A Gaffin can be reached on 703-308-3301. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

asc
June 26, 2003


JEFFREY GAFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100